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MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF PEMBROKE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1955.

To His Worship the Mayor, and Corporation
Of the Borough of Pembroke.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1955.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Estimate).....1955.....
.....13,890.....

There is an increase in the population of 820 compared with the estimated figure for 1954, which was 12,890.

Live Births.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	128	121	249
Illegitimate	6	3	9
Total Births	134	124	258

Birth Rate.

This was 18.8 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 17.07 for the County of Pembroke and 15.0 for the whole of the country. The Birth Rate for 1954 was 19.86

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-

This was 0.51 per 1,000 of the population or 27.0 per 1,000 live births, compared with 29.35 approximately per thousand live births in the County of Pembroke and 23.1 per thousand live births in the whole of England and Wales.

Infant Mortality

There were six deaths of infants under one year of age, of which three were under four weeks old. The Infant Mortality Rate was 23.0 per 1,000 live births compared with a rate of 23.73 for the County of Pembroke and 24.9 for the whole of England and Wales. The Infant Mortality Rate in the Borough is thus lower than in 1954 when it was 31.25.

Of the six infant deaths, two were due to congenital heart disease, two to gastro-enteritis, and the remainder to birth

injury and atelectasis.

Deaths

The total number of deaths from all causes was 165.

The Death Rate was therefore 12.0 per 1,000 of the population compared with 12.44 in the County of Pembroke and 11.7 in the whole of England and Wales. The rate in 1954 was 12.8.

The causes of death were :-

	Male	Female
TOTAL (all causes)	86	79
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	-
Malignant diseases	14	14
Diabetes	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	17
Coronary disease, angina	12	14
Hypertension, with heart disease	1	2
Other heart disease	7	14
Other circulatory disease	5	4
Influenza	1	2
Pneumonia	2	-
Bronchitis	3	3
Other disease of respiratory system	2	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostrate	4	-
Congenital malformations	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	4
Motor Vehicle accidents	2	1
All other accidents	7	-
Suicide	-	1

Approximately 35.7% of the total deaths were of persons over 70 years of age, including 14.8% over 80 years of age

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Pneumonia	13	Dysentery	1	Whooping Cough	2
Scarlet Fever	3	Erysipelas	2	Measles	426
Poliomyelitis	1				

The case notified as suffering from Poliomyelitis was admitted to the West Wales Isolation Hospital Tumble but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

TUBERCULOSIS

Six cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year and also one case of non-respiratory tuberculosis. Four of these cases were admitted to hospital and also four cases previously notified.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PART III

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

This service is undertaken by the County Council. Ante-natal supervision is provided by the District-Nurse/Midwives and by the patient's own Doctor. A maternity outfit is provided by the County Council for all home confinements.

There is a Child Welfare Centre at Pembroke Dock staffed by a Medical Officer and the Health Visitor and District Nurse/Midwives.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

There are three District-Nurse/Midwives in the Borough. The Midwifery Service is provided by the County Council through the agency of the County Nursing Association which is supervised by the County Nursing Officer under the direction of the County Medical Officer.

Health Visiting Service.

There is one whole-time Health Visitor and School Nurse in the Borough working under the supervision of the County Nursing Officer.

Home Nursing

There are three Nurses in the Borough employed by the County Council, for combined Home Nursing and Midwifery duties.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

VACCINATION

Records were received of 117 primary vaccinations and of 40 secondary vaccinations.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. VACCINATION

The B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts has been carried out in the Borough by Dr. Llewelyn Davies, the Chest Physician since 1950. During the Autumn Term, B.C.G. Vaccination of school leavers was commenced, that is, the children who have reached the age of thirteen years, written consent having been obtained from the parents.

277 children were skin tested and of these 39 were vaccinated.

It is hoped that it will be possible to complete the skin testing and vaccination of all the thirteen year olds, whose parents so wish, during the school year. It will be necessary to repeat the skin testing annually and vaccinate the negative reactors.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

During the year 162 children were immunised and 10 were given reinforcing injections.

Both vaccination and immunisation are carried out free of

charge by local practitioners, and records are paid for by the County Council.

THE AMBULANCE SERVICE

This is the responsibility of the County Council, which has seven ambulances in the County, and an arrangement for the provision of cars for "sitting cases".

In 1955, the Pembroke Dock Ambulance dealt with 404 stretcher cases and 1,469 sitting cases, in 684 journeys in which it travelled 37,169 miles.

DOMESTIC HEALTH SERVICE.

The Home Help Organiser employed by the County Council is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the service. The service endeavours to provide domestic assistance in house-holds where such help is required on account of sickness and old age. This service helps to reduce the need for hospital beds and for Part III accommodation.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 :- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.

FOOD

A great deal of [illegible]s spent by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors in the maintenance of high standards in the production and handling of food of all descriptions. The sampling of milk, cream and ice-cream takes up much time, but is an invaluable service to the community.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

PHYLLIS M. BOWEN

District M.O.H.

Civic Centre,
TENBY.

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